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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

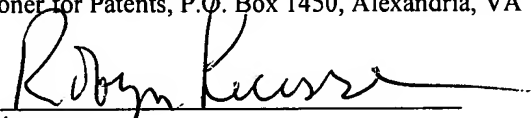
Applicant: Richard F. Roth et al.  
Serial No.: 10/672,779  
Confirmation No.: 9718  
Filed: September 26, 2003  
For: PROTECTIVE COVERS FOR FIBER OPTIC  
CONNECTOR

Examiner: Prasad, C.  
Art Unit: 2839

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 31<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2004.

  
Signature

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**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination on the merits of the application, please amend the above-identified application as follows: